ANCIENT EGYPTIAN CLASSIFICATION OF THE RACES OF MAN.—At a meeting of the London Anthropological Institute, held May 25th, Mr. R. S. Poole read a paper, reported in *Nature*, on the "Ancient Egyptian Classification of the Races of Man." This was defined by the famous subject of the four races in the tombs of the kings, at Thebes (B. C. 1400—1200). The types were (1) Egyptian, red; (2) Shemite, yellow; (3) Libyan, white; (4) Negro, black. By comparison with monuments of the same period and of a somewhat earlier date, the first race, clearly an intermediate type, was seen to comprehend the Phenicians, the Egyptians and the people of Arabia Felix with the opposite coast. The Libyan race included an aquiline type, with marked supraorbital ridges and receding foreheads, as well as a straight-nosed type. These two types inhabited the south coast of the Mediterranean and some of the islands. The Negro race included the Negro and Nubian types. The Hittites and Hyksos, or shepherds, were as yet unclassed. Professor Flower remarked upon the resemblance of the aquiline Libyan type to that of the Neanderthal crania and the oldest European type; and saw in the Hyksos head distinctly Mongolian characters. These two points are of the highest consequence in historical anthropology.

——:o:——

SCIENTIFIC NEWS.[1]

— A new society, known as the Lackawanna Institute of History and Science, has been organized at Scranton, Pennsylvania. It starts off with the remarkable number of six hundred charter members, including the names of most of the prominent men and women of the Lackawanna valley. In June and July a summer school of geology was carried on under the auspices of the society, and conducted by Professor John C. Branner, of the Indiana University. The interest manifested in this class is a promise of what may be expected hereafter of the society, in the way of interesting its younger members in active work. The class numbered forty regularly enrolled members, while on some days the excursions in the field numbered nearly twice as many. Lectures upon the geology of the region were delivered every alternate evening to full houses. A lecture was also delivered by Professor W. R. Dudley, of Cornell University, upon the geographical distribution of plants.

Scranton is certainly well located for such work. To the south and within easy reach, the rocks are exposed all the way from the bottom of the Upper Silurian at the Delaware water gap to and through the coal measures of the Lackawanna valley. The mountainous region, fine scenery and extremely interesting geology and botany mark the place as an extraordinarily favorable

[1] Edited by WM. HOSEA BALLOU, 265 Broadway, New York.

one for such classes. Hitherto Scranton, now a city of over 80,000 inhabitant, has devoted itself to material development, and has succeeded. We now expect to see as marked success of a higher order. It makes a good beginning.

— The Scientific Association of Detroit is not active. It has donated its valuable collections to the city, which has provided the specimens with scant but pleasant apartments in the public library buildings. Detroit is a city of millionaires. Michigan is a State of boundless mineral wealth, rich in industrial woods and remarkable geological formations, and the home of ancient hieroglyphics and ethnological remains. That scientific apathy should reign in Detroit where a large body of citizens have made millions from these resources, is at least a State disgrace. Detroit ought to support a museum devoted to the resources of the commonwealth of which it is the metropolis, especially as it is one of the oldest cities of America.

— The meteor which fell near Claysville, Washington county, Pa., September 14th, was found recently by Professor J. Emerick, of William and Mary College. The stone was found embedded at the base of a hill. It weighed about 200 tons, but was cracked into pieces by contact with a stratum of limestone. Its composition was chromium, nickel, aluminium, copper, magnesium, tin and other metals and metalloids. It contained eighty-seven per cent of iron in a metallic state. Its specific gravity was 7412. Its elevation above the earth's surface was established at fifty-two miles, its path nearly horizontal, its flight between five and ten seconds, its visible path 150 miles, and its velocity fifteen to twenty miles per second.

— The Chicago Academy of Sciences has been presented with the bones of an elephant supposed to be *Elephas primigenius*, by Dr. E. W. Andrews. The remains were discovered in the eastern part of Washington Territory. Among them is one animal of enormous size which is quite as large as Ward's Siberian Mammoth. Its tusk is ten feet in length, pelvis sixty-three inches in length and the longest rib found 54.6 inches long. No complete skeleton was found.

— Professor H. S. Carhart, of the Chair of Physics of the Northwestern University at Evanston, has been called to the similar chair at Ann Arbor. Professor Carhart has now a high standing as a physical experimentalist, both as regards America and Germany.

— Dr. Oliver Marcy, LL.D., has issued the annual report of the museum of the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill., which shows it to be one of the very first in standing west of the Alleghenies. The donations of the year are exceedingly numerous and valuable.

— The only photograph that was taken of William B. Carpenter, C.B., M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., during his late visit to the U. S., when he came to attend the A. A. A. S., measures 11 × 17 in., and copies can be obtained of Mr. Charles Slosson, 181 Hudson street, Buffalo, N. Y.

——:o:——

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.— This body met at Buffalo, N. Y., commencing August 18th, in the building of the municipal High School. The following papers were read:

Thursday, August 19th.

SECTION E—GEOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY.

On the methods of testing building stones by absorption, freezing and fire. Alexis A. Julien.

Thickness of the glacier in N. E. Penn. John C. Branner.

A remarkable extinct geyser basin in S. W. Colorado. Theo. B. Comstock.

The Tully limestone; its distribution, character and fossils. S. G. Williams.

Note on the Lower Helderberg rocks of Cayuga county, N. Y. S. G. Williams.

Revision of the Cayuga Lake section of the Devonian. H. G. Williams.

Mechanical origin of the Triassic monoclinal in the Conn. valley. W. M. Davis.

Remarks on molluscan fossils of the New Jersey marl beds, contained in Vols. I and II of the New Jersey palæontology, and on their stratigraphical relations. R. P. Whitfield.

Preliminary geological map of Nebraska. L. E. Hicks.

The Permian formation in Nebraska. L. E. Hicks.

Some typical well-sections in Nebraska. L. E. Hicks.

The Lincoln salt-basin. L. E. Hicks.

On Devonian and Carboniferous fishes. J. S. Newberry.

On the Cretaceous flora of N. America. J. S. Newberry.

On some Carboniferous wood from Ohio. E. W. Claypole.

On the deep well at Akron, Ohio. E. W. Claypole.

Notes on the Archæan rocks of the highlands east of the Hudson river in New in New York. J. C. Smock.

Some new geologic wrinkles. G. K. Gilbert.

Rounded boulders at high altitudes along some Appalachian rivers. I. C. White.

Topography of head of Chesapeake bay. W. J. McGee.

Quaternary geology of the head of Chesapeake bay. W. J. McGee.

Cambrian age of the roofing slates of Granville, Washington county, New York. C. D. Wolcott.

Super-metamorphism; its actuality, inducing causes and general effects. T. B. Comstock.

Paper on geology of Florida. J. Kost.

SECTION F—BIOLOGY.

Atavism the result of cross-breeding lettuce. E. Lewis Sturtevant.

The bulliform or hygroscopic cells of grasses and sedges compared. W. J. Beal.

Synopsis of North American pines based on leaf anatomy. John M. Coulter and J. N. Rose.